

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 and 17-32 are all of the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 21-24 are amended to more particularly define the invention. No new matter is added.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicants specifically state that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

The Examiner alleges that the Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 filed on April 6, 2009 was not fully responsive to the Office Action dated January 6, 2009. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that “use of the word ‘and’ in line 2 of each of claims 21, 22, 23 and 24 render each of these claims indefinite.”

Applicants conducted a brief telephone interview with the Examiner on August 4, 2009 with respect to the Examiner’s allegation. Applicants respectfully submitted that such language included in the amended claims 21-24 was common and notoriously used across many different art units. The Examiner disagreed.

While Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s allegation that claims 21-24 are indefinite and submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would clearly understand claims 21-24 as filed on April 6, 2009, to expedite prosecution, claims 21-24 are amended to remove “one of . . . and . . .” from claims 21-24 and add “or” to the claims 21-24 to alleviate the Examiner’s concerns reflected in the Office Action dated July 29, 2009.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-9 and 17-32, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in

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condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, Applicants request the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Date: August 5, 2009

Respectfully Submitted,



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